



JFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application No. 10/731,142

Applicant: Seiki HIRAMATSU

Filed: December 10, 2003

TC/AU: 2833

Examiner: M. Mooney

Docket No.: 402905

Customer No.: 23548

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

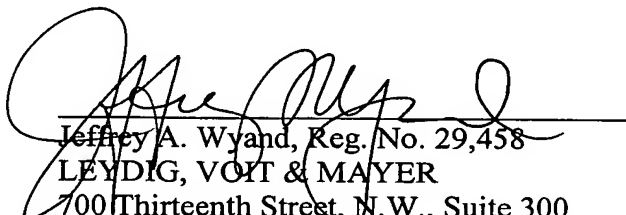
**SUBMISSION OF PRIOR ART DOCUMENTS**

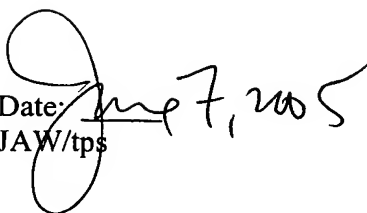
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97, Applicant submits for insertion in the file of his allowed patent two prior art publications that recently came to the attention of the Applicant. The documents are listed on an attached PTO 1449 form for convenience.

The issue fee for this application has been paid so that consideration of the publications pursuant to 37 CFR 1.98 is not permitted or sought. A further patent application will be filed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jeffrey A. Wyand, Reg. No. 29,458  
LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER  
700 Thirteenth Street, N.W., Suite 300  
Washington, DC 20005-3960  
(202) 737-6770 (telephone)  
(202) 737-6776 (facsimile)

Date:   
JAW/tps